

REMARKS

The issues outstanding in the Office Action mailed August 9, 2004, are the rejections under 35 U.S.C §112 and the objection to the amendment. Reconsideration of these issues, in view of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Status of Claims

The claims withdrawn in response to Applicants' election have been canceled herein. Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application at a later time.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C §112

Claim 31 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C §112, as it is argued that the recitation "in which the OH group of the carboxyl function has been replaced by a good leaving group" lack antecedent basis in the specification. In fact, this language was contained in original claim 6, thus it is not seen that this concern is an issue. However, the specification has been amended at page 7, line 22, in order to provide antecedent basis for this claim. Thus, it is submitted that this issue is moot.

The Examiner is thanked for pointing out the typographical error in claim 6. An appropriate amendment has been made.

Thus, it is submitted that the rejections under 35 U.S.C §112 should be withdrawn.

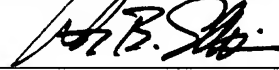
Objection to Claim

Claim 31 has been objected to under 35 U.S.C §132, as it is argued to introduce new matter. In fact, claim 31 repeats the language of *original* claim 6. As such, the amendment does not present new matter. Moreover, the language of original claim 6 provides support to incorporate the antecedent basis for the claim into the specification, as has been done. Accordingly, it is submitted that the objection should be withdrawn.

The claims of the application are submitted to be in condition for allowance. However, should the Examiner have any comments or questions which would expedite prosecution, she is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned at the number below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,



Harry B. Shubin, Reg. No. 32,004
Attorney for Applicant(s)

MILLEN, WHITE, ZELANO
& BRANIGAN, P.C.
Arlington Courthouse Plaza 1, Suite 1400
2200 Clarendon Boulevard
Arlington, Virginia 22201
Telephone: (703) 243-6333
Facsimile: (703) 243-6410

Attorney Docket No.: DCLERC-1

Date: August 20, 2004

HBS.jqs
K:\dclerc\1\REPLY.doc